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City of Salisbury Receives Local Government Certification
State Historic Preservation Office Continues to Recognize Dedicated
Efforts by Salisbury Historic Preservation Commission

Salisbury, NC_April 14, 2008 – The City of Salisbury announces receipt of the Certified Local Government (CLG) designation in support of North Carolina's preservation program. The recognition, bestowed by the North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office (HPO), partners Salisbury with 1500 communities across the nation, actively engaged in preserving the unique and valuable historic character of communities. Through the CLG program, municipalities are able to increase local preservation involvement and receive technical assistance and grant opportunities.

In a report to the NC Department of Cultural Resources, State Historic Preservation Office in Raleigh, Salisbury Senior Planner Janet Gapen, outlined the work of the Salisbury Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) during 2007. A review by the State HPO found Salisbury in consistent fulfillment of the four basic responsibilities necessary for continued participation in the CLG program. Those areas are outlined as follows: enforcing state and local legislation for the designation and protection of historic resources, maintaining a system for survey and inventory of historic properties, providing for adequate public participation in the historic preservation program and reviewing National Register nominations through a qualified local historic preservation commission.

Mary Ruffin Hanbury, Certified Local Government Coordinator, declares in a March 26, 2008 correspondence to Gapen, "Salisbury is fulfilling admirably the four basic responsibilities for continued participation in the CLG Program. We commend the Salisbury Historic Preservation Commission for its incentive grants program, its special legislation prohibiting demolition in the Downtown Local Historic District, presentation to the board of realtors and Preservation month activities. This activity serves and benefits the community and builds support for the value of preservation."

In addition to the four basic responsibilities outlined above, Salisbury must meet certain specific requirements as set forth in the *Guidelines for North Carolina's Certified Local Government Program*, to retain CLG recognition. At least two commission members and the staff are required to attend an educational and informational meeting pertaining to preservation or the work of the commission each year. This increased knowledge and expertise provides benefit to the local community through a statewide network of

preservationists. Gapen's report to the State HPO offered four staff and seven commission members in attendance at educational meetings during 2007.

In final recognition and closing, Hanbury's letter acknowledges, "Congratulations on the continued certification of Salisbury as an important local government partner in North Carolina's historic preservation program. We thank the city, the historic preservation commission, and the citizens for all they do to preserve Salisbury's unique and valuable historic resources and for the contribution their efforts make to the community's quality of life." The year 2008 marks the 12th consecutive year in which Salisbury has obtained CLG certification.

Salisbury Mayor Susan Kluttz, speaking on behalf of the Salisbury City Council shares, "The residents of Salisbury have inherited a rich architecture, filled with a historic legacy of rich cultural value. We commend the outstanding work of our Historic Preservation Commission and their consistent dedication to our City. By protecting and preserving these historic sites and structures, we ensure that a vital part of our local heritage will remain intact for future generations."

The City of Salisbury is an equal employment opportunity employer with over 180 different job classifications and 400 full time positions. For more information regarding the City, its services or career opportunities, please visit the Salisbury on the World Wide Web at www.salisburync.gov.

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